

Summary of the Minutes

August 19, 2013 Meeting

City of Binghamton Shade Tree Commission

PHCD Conference Room, 4th Floor, City Hall

Present: Dick Andrus, Julian Shepherd, Bev Rainforth (scribe), Joshua De Marree, Melissa Enoch

Absent: Alexandra Spencer, Lou Sebesta, Carolyn Wilczynski

Minutes for June 19th, 2013: Approved as is

Next Meeting: September 16, 2013 at 7:00 PM City Hall Planning Dept Conference Room

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Joshua De Marree was appointed to the Shade Tree Commission in July; this was an appointment by the Mayor.
2. **NYSEG.** Dick will write to NYSEG to remind them that they made a commitment to plant some trees. STC had asked NYSEG to provide the city with one plantable tree (1½" to 1¾" caliper) for each tree that NYSEG removed, with STC approving the selection of trees.
3. **Review of New Site Plans**
 - a. In order to keep the STC listserv open to the public as well as respect applicants for zoning permits, feedback about site plans will be sent directly to STC members and relevant city officials rather than via the listserv.
 - b. Lourdes Road Parking Lot for 169 Riverside Drive. The size of proposed trees was approved for canopy coverage. STC recommends more diversity in selection of trees (e.g., exchange some Zelcovas for London Plane trees).
4. **Street Tree Program.** The Planning dept is working with the Parks dept to resolve concerns about response to street tree requests, types of trees planted, etc. Also, some confusion about tree requests may arise when houses on street corners make requests (e.g., Millard has few street trees, but few houses *face* Millard so tree requests would not have a Millard address).
5. **Tree Inventory Findings.** Melissa will forward information by email.
6. **Tree Replacement at Ross Park.** If the Parks dept approves planting, Dick will contact the zoo and Discovery Center about the possibility of an Arbor Day planting event. Melissa will contact Bill Barber to see if the Parks dept would dig the holes, drop off trees, etc.